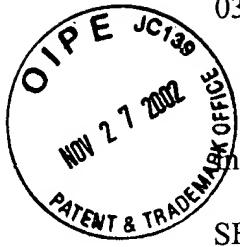


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2861  
20/105  
T. S. Sept 2002  
123-02

in re Application of: )  
SHOZO HATTORI, et al. )  
Application No.: 09/543,331 )  
Filed: April 5, 2000 )  
For: INK ABSORBENT, INK )  
TANK, INK CARTRIDGE, )  
METHOD FOR )  
MANUFACTURING INK )  
ABSORBENT, AND METHOD )  
FOR MANUFACTURING INK : November 26, 2002  
TANK )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner  
attention to the enclosed European Examination Report which issued during prosecution  
of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application.

Both of the documents cited in the Examination Report have been cited in  
the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 16, 2001. Accordingly, no references  
accompany this Information Disclosure Statement.

The European Examination Report is dated October 28, 2002. In view of  
this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that this Information Disclosure  
Statement presents information that was cited in a communication from a foreign patent

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office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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